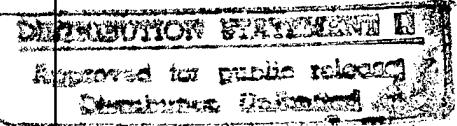


# REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503.

1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave blank)		2. REPORT DATE	3. REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED	
		15 February 1993	Final Report	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE			5. FUNDING NUMBERS	
Report on the Synthesis of a Lubricant Sample			SPC-92-4022	
6. AUTHOR(S)				
Prof R.D. Chambers and Dr M.P. Greenhall				
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)			8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
Durham Research Unit BNFL Fluorochemicals Department of Chemistry Durham DH1 3LE, England			SPC-92-4022	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)			10. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY REPORT NUMBER	
EOARD PSC 802 BOX 14 FPO AE 09499-0200			SPC-92-4022	
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES				
12a. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT			12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE	
 Unlimited				
13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)				
<p>The objective of this project was to develop the techniques associated with the preparation of samples of substituted perfluoropolymers, including the preparation of a 10 to 20 gram sample of perfluoropolyether for lubricant testing by the USAF.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DTIC QUALITY INSPECTED 4</p>				
14. SUBJECT TERMS			15. NUMBER OF PAGES	
			6	
			16. PRICE CODE	
17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT	18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE	19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT	20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT	
UNCLASSIFIED	UNCLASSIFIED	UNCLASSIFIED	UL	

Report on the synthesis of a lubricant sample (REF SPC 92-4022)

Prof. R.D. Chambers & Dr. M.P. Greenhall, University of Durham, UK.

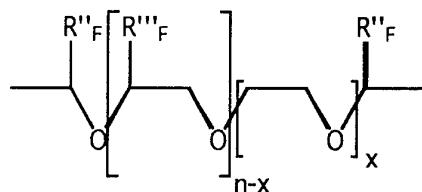
(This report completes the first agreement)

15th February 1993

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## Introduction

The objective of this project was to develop the techniques associated with the preparation of samples of substituted perfluoropolyethers, including the preparation of a 10 to 20 gram sample of perfluoropolyether (1) for lubricant testing by the USAF.



on average  $\{(n-x) > 9, x < 4.2\}$

$$\begin{aligned} R''_F &= CF_3CF_2CF_2 \text{ (predom) or } F \\ R'''_F &= CF_3CF_2CF_2 \end{aligned}$$

[1]

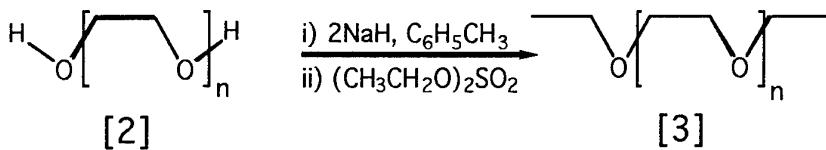
(Note: Chambers, US Patent 4,877,905)

## Experimental

### a) Starting materials

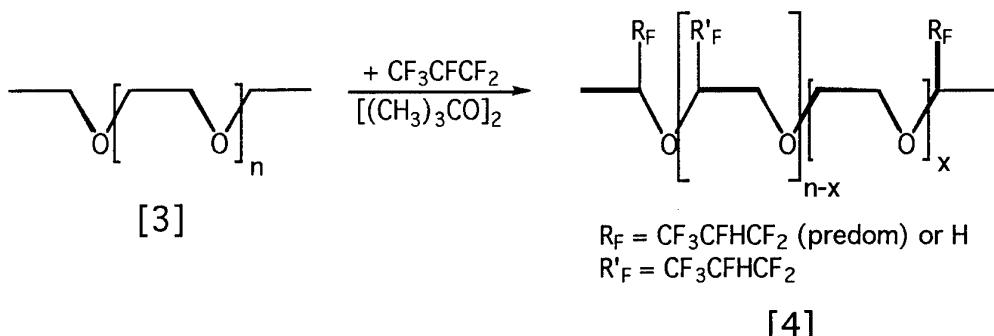
Samples of polyethylene glycol(600) {n = 13.2}, diethylsulphate, sodium hydride, and ditertiarybutylperoxide were used as supplied by Aldrich Chemical Company Limited. Hexafluoropropene was used as supplied by Fluorochem Limited. 50% Fluorine/Nitrogen mixture was used as supplied by Air Products.

b) Endcapping of commercial polyethyleneglycol (600)



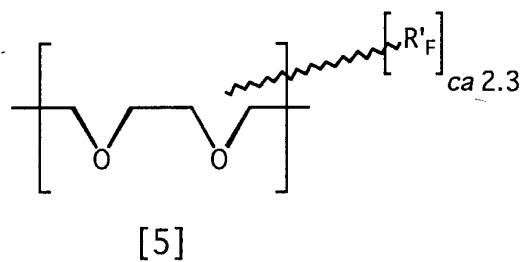
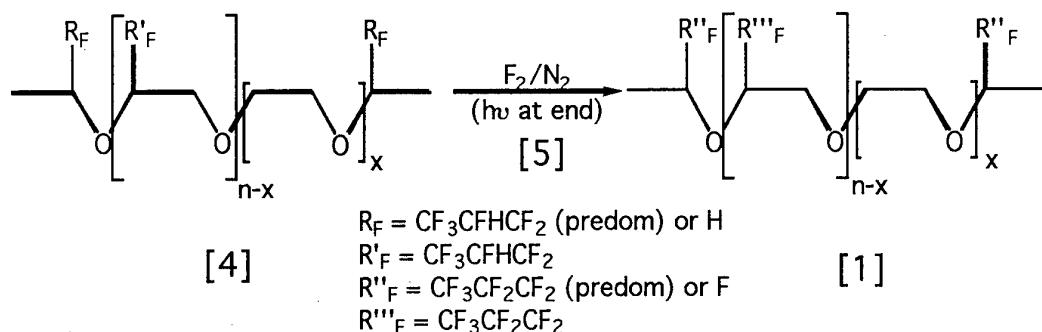
Azeotropically dried polyethyleneglycol(600) (150.0g, 0.25moles) in toluene (350ml) was added slowly to sodium hydride (3 x toluene washed) (14.0g, 0.58moles) in a 3 necked 2 litre flask under a dry nitrogen atmosphere. The reaction temperature was kept below 45°C during the addition and for 1 hour thereafter. The temperature was increased to 100°C over the course of 1 hour and maintained for 135 minutes. Diethylsulphate (43.0g, 0.28moles) was then added to the mixture (25°C) over the course of 20 minutes. The mixture was stirred for 1 hour and then heated to 100°C for 2 hours. The mixture was cooled, filtered, and volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The resulting oil was dissolved in dichloromethane (200ml) and passed through an alumina packed column, collecting the first portion of the product only. After solvent removal n.m.r. analysis indicated a pure sample of a pale yellow solid [3] (80.0g).

c) Reaction of [3] with hexafluoropropene



Into a 300ml stirred autoclave was introduced [3] (65.9g, 0.10 moles), and ditertiary butyl peroxide (5.2g, 0.0356 moles). Dissolved oxygen was removed by introducing high pressure nitrogen gas (15 Bar), stirring, and carefully venting (repeated twice). The autoclave system was then evacuated. Hexafluoropropene gas (ca 20g) was introduced and the autoclave was heated to 130°C with stirring. Hexafluoropropene was then allowed to pressurise the autoclave from a room temperature cylinder. The autoclave contents were heated to and then maintained at a temperature of 140°C for ca 2 hours until the uptake of hexafluoropropene gas had ceased. This procedure was twice repeated with fresh initiator. Finally a portion of product (ca 80g) with fresh initiator (7.5g) was reacted further with hexafluoropropene. The autoclave contents were heated to 140°C during which time the internal pressure rose to ca 20 Bar. After stirring for a period of 3 hours the autoclave was cooled and opened. N.M.R. analysis of the stripped product (an orange oil) indicated that there were ca 11.4 hexafluoropropyl groups per polyethylene glycol molecule. Given that the terminal ethyl groups have a high degree of substitution, this gives a minimum value of (n-x) as ca 9.4.

d) Reaction of [4] with fluorine/nitrogen mixtures



A solution of [4] (25.2g) in [5] (70.5g) was introduced into a stirred FEP reaction vessel. A  $\text{F}_2/\text{N}_2$  mixture containing from 10% to 50%  $\text{F}_2$  was passed into the vessel at room temperature. When the reactivity had decreased the mixture was transferred into an FEP tube through which 50%  $\text{F}_2/\text{N}_2$  was bubbled and the temperature was raised to 65°C. At this time ca 60% of the hydrogen atoms had been replaced by fluorine. Perfluorination was effected by passing 50%  $\text{F}_2/\text{N}_2$  through the mixture under ultra violet irradiation (100W then 1000W medium pressure discharge lamps). The volatile, now perfluorinated, solvent (53g) was removed under reduced pressure (200°C, <1mmHg) leaving a colourless viscous oil (20.1g). This oil was fractionated (200°C, <1mmHg) yielding [1] (14.1g) as a colourless residue. Many nmr samples were removed during fluorination to monitor the process, hence, the weight of the final product does not reflect the efficiency of the process. A sample of [1] (11.0g) was sealed in an evacuated ampule and dispatched to Euro. Off. Aerospace R+D (AFSC), 223/231 Old Marylebone Road, London NW1 5TH (Receipt was confirmed by A. Davison on 21.1.93)

## Characterisation of Intermediates/Products

### Estimation of degree of hexafluoropropene incorporation

To an nmr sample (CDCl<sub>3</sub> as solvent) was added 1 to 4 drops of  $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha$ -trifluorotoluene. By determining the ratio of high field <sup>1</sup>H & <sup>19</sup>F nmr integrals of the sample and trifluorotoluene it was possible to assess the extent of hexafluoropropene incorporation.

### Estimation of degree of fluorination

To an n.m.r. sample (CDCl<sub>3</sub> as solvent in early stages of fluorination, neat in later stages) was added 1 to 4 drops of  $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha$ -trifluorotoluene. By determining the ratio of high field <sup>1</sup>H & <sup>19</sup>F n.m.r. integrals of the sample and trifluorotoluene it was possible to assess the extent of fluorination knowing the extent of hexafluoropropene incorporation.

### <sup>19</sup>F N.M.R. of [1]

See Appendix 1 for 235MHz n.m.r. spectrum.

### <sup>13</sup>C N.M.R of [1]

At 62.9MHz multiple overlapping resonances between 102 and 127ppm

### Elemental Analysis of [1]

Elemental analysis indicated 0.0% Hydrogen and 22.6% Carbon.

## Summary

A perfluorinated polyether of novel structure has been produced. Aspects of the larger scale synthesis of such materials have been developed. We look forward to further development of syntheses of new materials of novel structure, for testing as lubricants in arrangement with Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio, USA.

Appendix 1.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR of Lubricant Sample 1 at 235MHz at Room Temperature

